

Wrestlers get third at Mitchell

Written by Deb Egenberger

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MITCHELL—Had a couple of matches in the consolation round turned the other way, Gothenburg may have come home from Mitchell with a runner-up trophy.

“Maybe even the title,” said Swede coach Tom Scott. As it was, though, close wasn’t close enough as the Swedes had to settle for third as a team with four individual runners-up, a third place and a fourth.

“We were winning by a point and a half over Gering after the semi-finals,” Scott said. “And we were winning some close matches that just didn’t go our way in the wrestle-backs.”

Still, Scott said he’s proud of how far the boys have come, scoring above Sidney and Mitchell, which both defeated Gothenburg earlier in the season.

Individuals who were second included Tyler Alvarez at 113 pounds, Dillon Larson at 152, Skyler Kottwitz at 170 and Dalton Goodwin at 182.

Seth Eggleston was third at 126 pounds and Brandon Stevens got fourth at 120.

“We are getting where we want to be,” Scott said. “We’ve seen improvements in every individual this week.”

Larson, Scott said, had an especially good meet with a pin over Tanner Wernsman of Sidney and 11-2 major decision over Bayard’s Trenton Applegate.

“They’re both quality wrestlers,” the coach said. “Dillon did a really nice job.”

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The Swedes have one meet left before the B-4 district at Sidney. Ainsworth hosts the Southwest Conference meet Friday.

“To win this conference, you’re going to have to be pretty good,” Scott said.

Valentine is the returning Class C state champion and Cozad is likely to finish in the top 10 at state in Class B.

“Not everyone walks in a room a state champion,” the coach said. “We just want kids to be able to say they put everything they had on the mat.”

SWC wrestling begins at 4 p.m.